

Abstract of the Disclosure

An improved barstar gene and improved barstar protein can be used to neutralize the activity of a barnase in eukaryotic cells, particular in plant cells. The improved barstar gene can be used to produce fertility restorer plants capable of restoring the fertility to a line of male-sterile plants that contain in the nuclear genome of their cells a chimeric gene comprising a stamen-selective promoter and a DNA coding for a barnase. Restorer plants containing the barstar gene in the restorer plant's nuclear genome is also disclosed.